THE CHURCH REPORTER.

MRS. MARGARET VAN COTT, the noted revivalist, is in the city.

ROBERT COLLYER preached to the Bostonians last Sunday about their old friend St. Patrick.

THE CHICAGO JOURNAL says D. L. Moody is in New York and Philadelphia. Ubiquitous Moody!

REV. JOHN A. GRAY, formerly pastor of Clark Street M. E. Church, has descended to the practice of law at Topeka, Kan.

THE CHERUBIM, according to the latest definition of one of our most recondite divines, "was a *composite animal*." Worcester worsted!

ST. PATRICK was the subject of a lecture given by Bishop Foley on the anniversary of that Saint's day. It is spoken of as an eloquent effort.

REV. C. E. SUMNER, a recent graduate of Andover, has received a unanimous call to become the pastor of the Lincoln Park Congregational Church. He will probably accept.

DR. SWAZEY, editor of *The Interior*, has been quite ill for several days, but we are glad to learn is convalescent. The Editorial Chair is not a cushioned seat—is it Dr.?

THE FRATERNITY of the Third Unitarian Church gave a dramatic entertainment in the church last Thursday evening. The Historical Society of the suburb of Cleaverville have been trying the dramatic also of late.

WE PUBLISH this week the sermon of Prof. David Swing, upon Soul-culture, at the special request of many who heard it. We believe all our subscribers would have seconded the request if they had heard the discourse.

THE REVIVAL in the Indiana Avenue Methodist Church has been one of the most remarkable that has occurred in this city for many years. A great many converts have been added to the church, and still there seems no lack of interest.

THE NEW EPISCOPAL PAPER, *The Diocese*, will appear to-day. We have seen an advance copy, and it reflects great credit on its managers, who only had two weeks since the idea was first proposed in which to work up and carry out their plans. The paper is a monthly quarto sheet, the subscription price being fifty cents per year.

REV. G. T. FLANDERS, the former pastor of the Church of the Redeemer, has concluded to accept the call extended to him by the First Universalist Church of Lowell, Mass. He is expected to give them $2,500 worth of sermons each year.

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH can't agree with parties, proposing to lease the ground upon which their church stood, at a fair price for the twenty years' lease. A "shingle" announces to the commercial world that it is still in the market. "Who 'll buy"?

THE STUDENTS of the Presbyterian Theological Seminary last Wednesday night came near having a material illustration of one of their spiritual beliefs concerning the wicked, but a Babcock Extinguisher saved them and the building. Loss fifty dollars.

NORWOOD PARK is to have a religious publishing association, and during the summer both the Baptist and Methodist people intend building houses of worship. The tendency seems to be since the fire for business men to seek homes in the suburbs convenient of access.

REV. L. T. CHAMBERLAIN is meeting with good success in his mission to the East in behalf of Chicago churches. His congregation have been worshiping since the fire in a temporary wooden structure, hardly worthy the name of church, but will, we hope, be again comfortably housed before the next winter.

"RECOLLECTIONS OF JUDEA AND JERUSALEM," by Rev. Arthur Mitchell at Reunion Presbyterian Church; "Old Times and New," by Rev. C. A. Staples at Unity Church, Oak Park. "The Coming Man," by Rev. M. M. Parkhurst at Grant Place M. E. Church, were some of the lectures given this week by Chicago clergymen. This is about the weekly average.

J. E. ROY, D.D., of this city, is giving "aid and comfort" to the Ex-Unitarian divine, Rev. G. H. Hepworth. On the 16th inst. he preached in his pulpit to the edification of the flock who followed their shepherd into the new fold. Dr. Roy is in the East attending a series of Home

Missionary Conventions, now being held in the different Congregational Conferences of Connecticut.

THE PRESBYTERIAN MINISTERS held their weekly meeting last Monday, and talked about the inspiration of the commands of the Bible. Rev. Arthur Mitchell, Rev. R. W. Patterson, and David Swing participated. No conclusion was arrived at save that Prof. Swing should read an essay on the subject at a future meeting. We are very glad the question was not settled beyond all appeal.

CHURCH PROPERTY in our city seems to be subject to the magical effect of the prestigiator's juggling "presto,"—changes are made so rapidly and unexpectedly. Every week we have recorded some sale or purchase. Last Thursday the Trustees of Grace Methodist Episcopal Church decided upon the purchase of a lot on the corner of North LaSalle and White streets, where their new edifice will be erected immediately. The lot has a LaSalle street front of 103¾ feet, with a depth on White street of 162 feet, and cost the Society $21,312.40. The property belonging to the St. Paul Universalist Church, on the corner of Van Buren street and Wabash avenue together with the lot adjoining, owned by the pastor of the church, has also changed hands, having been bought by some Eastern speculators, who paid for the property the handsome sum of $126,000.

"REV." THEODORE TILTON—as an illiterate contemporary dubs him—gave a remarkable lecture to a very large audience of critics last Monday evening, in the Michigan Avenue Baptist Church, in which he "defined his position," when he made it appear that he was not so "black a devil as he has been painted." As a mere mental and intellectual feat his lecture was one of the most remarkable delivered this season, being an extemporaneous effort, but having all the polish and beauty of Phillips' rehetoric, the solid compactness of Douglas's logic, and much of the directness and simplicity of Lincoln's utterances. He preached to the preachers—many of our city ministers being present in the audience; but judging from after criticism he did not convince them that they should subscribe to his *Golden Age*—either as a paper or as a doctrine. Still it was evident that he won many friends if he made few disciples.

IT TAKES four hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars a-year to pay the teachers of the Chicago public schools. This amount only serves to train the intellect of the children of Chicago; their morals are left largely to the care of their parents and of Sunday-schools. Why should not the public schools teach children good manners and good morals, as well as good logic and grammar? This would be much better than the reading of the Bible, which, we conceive, does not so take hold of the minds of the children, as to at all warrant the controversy which is raised concerning it. The teaching of the conduct of life in manly honesty, with gentle courtesy to all, is of moment to the State and unobjectionable to any religious denomination. Let the Sunday-schools do the strictly religious work, which could not be done in the public schools, because objectionable to some classes of tax-payers. Let us adopt in part the Chinese idea of teaching in our public schools, and relieve our Sunday-schools of the burden of teaching common morality.

THE STOCKHOLDERS of the Western Presbyterian Publishing Company are to hold their Second Annual Meeting next Tuesday, when the annual report will be read and a new Board of Directors will be elected. This meeting is one of considerable interest to the Presbyterians of our city, and indeed of the whole West, as the officers elected control and direct the affairs of *The Interior*, the able organ of the Presbyterian Church. It is expected that some radical changes will be made in the complexion of the Board at the coming election. The present esteemed editor, Dr. Swazey, will represent a controlling share of the stock, and will no doubt secure the election of such a Board as will cordially unite with him in carrying out his liberal views regarding the management and conduct of the paper. Rumor has it that a managing editor will be secured to aid him in his very onerous labors, and, with the enterprising publisher recently imported from Cincinnati to "push" its business affairs, the prospects of *The Interior* are very encouraging. Its losses by the fire were met by a generous donation of $3,000 from the Presbyterian Relief Fund.

THE MAYOR and Finance Committee have waited upon the officers of the Relief and Aid Society to obtain any *surplus* moneys that the Society may have. The Society now has $600,000. Rations were issued last week to 89,000 persons, and the number of destitute persons is increasing. The officers think there are a thousand families who will require support during the summer, and that there will be

no surplus money to turn over to the city treasury. We obtain some idea of the immensity of the relief work from the following figures: The Society has built 4,000 houses, and up to March 2d disbursed 887,000 yards of unmade goods; 98,073 pieces of housekeeping articles, such as crockery, stoves, pails, chairs, tables, etc.; 339,069 articles of wearing material; 105,368 articles of bedding, and 30,120 tons of coal. We obtain some notion, too, from the fact that the necessities of 100,000 "burned-out" people have been met, and their wants supplied. The relief of these thousands is a thousand times more memorable than the burning of the city. The question suggests itself whether every such calamity is not after all a blessing?

THE WESTERN AVE. BAPTIST CHURCH shows a commendable spirit of enterprise when it undertakes to publish a newspaper to represent its interests. In *The Bell*—the first copy of which we have just received—they intend to ring out their own praises and claims. From it we learn a number of interesting facts regarding the church organization. From the reports presented at the Second Annual Meeting of the church, which was held January 27th, we learn that, beginning the year with one hundred and sixty-seven members, eighty-seven have been added to the church, of whom fifty-seven were received by baptism, twenty-nine by letter, and one by experience. Fifteen members have been lost to the church—two by death, and thirteen have removed to other churches. The year closed with two hundred and thirty-nine members on the roll. Since this report was given, we are informed that the pastor, Rev. John Gordon, on the first Sunday in February gave the hand of fellowship to thirty new members; and on the first Sunday in March to eleven more. Such a prosperous church needs an "organ" to show what good things it is doing, and how it wins its success.

THE YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION last Thursday were called upon to decide what was perhaps one of the most important questions which in all their history they have been required to settle—the election of officers for the ensuing year. It is unfortunate—to say the least—that no more interest was taken in the election, for upon the selection of the "right men for the right place," much depends during the coming year. The labor of the new Board of Directors will be no child's play, particularly if they attempt to carry out the large and liberal plans which the public have come to expect from this energetic body. There is something said about the newly-elected officers not being willing to serve on account of their being chosen for office without previous consultation, but it is to be hoped that they will consult the interest of the organization and not their own comfort when they consider such a question. The officers elected were, P. W. Harvey, President; C. P. Kellogg, First Vice President; Major D. W. Whittle, Second Vice President, and Wm. B. Topliff, Corresponding Secretary; Recording Secretary, J. M. Chapman; Treasurer, S. A. Kean; Managers—Baptist, M. R. Bortree; Presbyterian, Geo. M. High; Congregational, D. L. Moody; Methodist Episcopal, Philip Myers; Episcopal, Chauncey T. Bowen.

CHICAGO MINISTERS are expected to perform such incidental extra, and unimportant work as semi-occasional lectures for the benefit of their own or sister churches, making speeches at political and social meetings, presiding at banquets, responding to toasts, addressing the graduates of colleges, writing magazine articles, the performance of marriage and funeral ceremonies with or without notice, the visiting of a numerous congregation, the receiving of numerous visits from particular members of the congregation, committee work on the Relief and Aid Society, consultation with architects, management of building committees, pacification of disaffected deacons, satisfactorily answering the irrelevant questions of the fertile brains of sceptics, conducting the noonday prayer-meetings of the Young Men's Christian Association, teaching classes at the Young Men's Christian Union, lending their influence to book agents, obtaining subscriptions for the denominational paper, giving counsel and comfort to any who may apply, finding Sunday-school teachers, making their ears receptacles for all complaints, taking tea with good sisters eight times a week, attending prayer-meetings two or three evenings a week, writing two sermons a week, preaching a different kind of sermon to please each member of the congregation, enlivening sepulchral sociables, managing church entertainments for the benefit of the organ fund, advertising from the pulpit miscellaneous entertainments, building, filling and paying for the largest and handsomest church in the city, harmonizing the choir, obtaining employment for young men, begging for all known benevolent objects, preaching an occasional superior sermon for THE CHICAGO PULPIT, giving recondite opinions and advice concerning all recent books, mentioning every one, including the foreign hea-

then, in their daily prayers, drawing their salary "ninety days after date," donating their salary in advance to applicants less needy than themselves, writing to a long list of correspondents, entertaining delegates to conventions and visitors from the country and—well such other varied exercises as prepare for the tedious monotony of a summer vacation.

BIBLIOPHILES will be interested to see a literary curiosity which, through the kindness of Dr. Powers, has been put on exhibition at S. C. Grigg's Book Store, where we had the pleasure a few days ago of examining it. It is a rare and curious old volume, which was sent to Dr. Powers by the well-known patriot, Gen. N. B. Baker, Adjutant General of Iowa, to be offered by him for sale, and the proceeds to be devoted to charitable purposes. The book is a Concordance of the Bible printed in old black letter type in Hebrew, Greek and German, the matter being arranged in parallel columns running down the broad heavy pages. It was written between the years 1650 and 1669 by one of the learned scholars of his day, Fredrick Lanckish, who devoted his life to the work, dying before the last volume of the book was printed. The first volume was printed by permission of Charles, Emperor of Germany, and Augustus Rex of Poland, during the year 1718, but owing to the difficulties which the early publishers had to overcome in the publication of such a large work, it was not until 1742 that the second volume appeared. This venerable publication is now bound together in one volume folio with great half inch boards covered with calf, fastened by brass and leather clasps. It has about two thousand two hundred pages, the title page, which bears the imprint of Leipsic and Frankfort, being gaily decorated with fancy red German-text letters. Collectors of theological curiosities will be glad to know that such a rare volume has been offered for sale, and those who unite with their love of musty books a love for poor and needy men, will be glad to know, that while gratifying their bibliomania they can also exercise their philanthrophy.

THE ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH is about to enter on a new era of its ecclesiastical history, which in the past has been one of uninterrupted prosperity. Organized on the 17th day of February, 1856, it at once called Dr. Bishop, who accepted the rectorship of the church on the 20th of the following month. The feeble Society gathered together during the early days of its organization in the little wooden structure, thirty by sixty-five feet, situated on the corner of Lake street and St. John's Place, which had been put up at some sacrifice—the $3,083 required to build the church being a sum which was then a considerable tax upon the members. The next year, however, it was found necessary to enlarge the church to meet the increasing demands of the congregation, and twice subsequently—in 1863 and 1865—a similar necessity required a like enlargement. In 1865 Dr. Bishop was obliged to separate from his loving charge, and went abroad for his health, where he died June 29th, 1869. In the life of the present popular pastor, given in No. 1 of THE CHICAGO PULPIT, we gave the history of his connection with the church, and alluded to its prosperity since his becoming its Rector. Dr. Powers is a powerful man, for he has lifted the church into such a commanding position that the stone spire of the new edifice will rise to the giddy height of two hundred and twenty-five feet. The foundations from which the spire springs, and on which the walls of the new church rest, are one hundred and thirty-two feet in length on Smith street and one hundred and twenty feet in front on Ashland avenue. The material out of which the building is to be constructed is Athens marble and Cleveland sandstone, but the tower and massive front will not be completed until the necessary funds are in the hands of the treasurer—Dr. Powers being one of those sensible men who does not enjoy preaching in borrowed apparel. With this business view of the matter he has had the basement fitted up in a most comfortable and elegant manner, where last Sunday the ceremony of dedicating that part of the edifice was performed. This portion of the church is to be used as the Sunday-school room when the whole building is completed, and is capable of comfortably seating nine hundred people. It is tastefully furnished—the Superintendent's platform at the north end being fitted up as the Chancel, from which last Sunday, for the first time, our pulpit Ruskin preached a sermon, remarkable for its eloquence and fervor, to an audience that crowded the miniature church to its utmost capacity. The choir, which sits to the left of the Chancel, gave fine music, and the organ from the old church has been so thoroughly refitted that few recognized in its rich tones the veteran which had spoken so sweetly in the old church home. The exercises were of a very informal character, however, as on Easter Sunday it is expected to celebrate both the day and the occasion of their entering their new home with appropriate and joyful ceremonies.